

Idalia Road Phase I-A/B Public Meeting No. 2

Meeting Notes

May 4th, 2022 at 6:00 PM

The meeting comments/questions and responses were recalled from the Public Meeting Question and Answer session after the presentation.

VJ

- **Comment:** This is very confusing - not sure what alternative is set where.
 - Andrew said to get in touch with us and we can go through everything

Kristen Mass

- **Question:** How fast can Loma Colorado be fixed - intersection is a mess.
- **Answer:** Arnell answered - No construction funding has been identified just yet, the design will not start until next year, and there is an intermediate project that will improve that intersection ahead of the final configuration. Construction should start early next year.

Mess Messal

- **Question:** Was concerned about their left turn accessibility and noted that he mostly goes east for his trips. Lives on Idalia and wants to turn left out of drive way. Why does there have to be a median? It seems safe today and there have not been any accidents yet.
- **Answer:** Andrew answered - we are still determining options for access for these specific properties that have direct access onto Idalia; however, wouldn't be too far to turn around if a median is installed in this area.
- **Comment:** The owner doesn't want to turnaround further up the road and wants direct access to his property.
- **Comment:** Our city doesn't even have metered lights to reduce smog, why would we risk our left hand turn. The median seems expensive and unnecessary - why risk for rock garden (median)?
- **Answer:** Arnell answered that we are following the SAMM requirements and that the medians help to eliminate free access to reduce collisions. The Two-way Left-Turn Lane (TWLTL) is super dangerous and we are eliminating this type of access in other parts of the city as well such as Southern Blvd.
- **Comment:** People are slowing at roundabout, they haven't had any accidents in or out and doesn't think it's congested enough to require the median.
- **Answer:** Arnell responded that we are still reviewing all viable alternatives.

VJ

- **Question:** Will that median go all the way to our development?
- **Question:** Concerned about noise by her development; will there be noise barriers; Will the road be closer to her home with the addition of the median?
- **Answer:** Andrew and Mikaela addressed the noise question. Andrew said there is not expected to be a large increase in traffic in the next 20 years and that we use projected volumes to evaluate the noise abatement. Yes, the road improvements will be slightly closer but staying within existing ROW. This road will keep the 1-lane in each direction and will not be a four lane road. This portion of Idalia will look similar to the existing Idalia Road east of Iris Rd.
- **Question:** What would happen with the children trying to get to school at the intersection of Loma Colorado? Also concerned about people parking alongside Idalia Rd. picking kids up after school. Children need a place to go safely. It has been observed that parents honk their horns,

and parents fight for parking spots. Is there a way to add more cross walks for the children? Also wants to know whether the city would be adding a parking lot across from the school.

- **Answer:** Andrew responded that there will be controlled crossing for pedestrians with the intersection, for either the signalized alternative or the roundabout. But the roundabout would only require that the pedestrians cross one to two lanes of traffic at a time and is generally much safer for pedestrians.
- **Comment:** There is a ton of traffic; people can't enjoy the community.
- **Answer:** Andrew addressed potential parking area question by stating that parking on Idalia near the school would not be allowed since it is a major roadway and No Parking signs will likely be installed. It was also noted that the open field area across from the school is private property and unless they would want to sell to the school for parking, parents can't park there.
- **Question:** If there are city employees present, for them to know that there is a major backup with traffic here. What is the daily traffic count?
- **Answer:** Andrew responded that from northern to Loma-Colorado, there are 4,000 average daily vehicles (ADT) and from Loma Colorado to Iris Rd, there are approximately 5,100 ADT.

Dave Baldwin

- **Comment:** Asked that Kim road not have a roundabout.
- **Answer:** There was no response to this.

Chuck Wilkins

- **Comment:** Need to acknowledge that there is a high volume of traffic at Loma Colorado during school times that causes backups.
- **Answer:** Andrew acknowledges that there is an increase in traffic volume in the afternoon for school pick-up times.

Kristen Mass

- **Question:** The traffic signal lights were put in quickly without any turn lanes. Is there a temporary solution?
- **Answer:** Arnell responded that there will be turn lanes included for the interim condition at the Loma Colorado intersection.

James Newman

- **Question:** why is there open median (TWLTL) on Southern if it isn't safe? I would think that would be safer.
- **Answer:** Arnell responded that first phase of the Southern Blvd. Project installed medians and removed the TWLTL. The next phase will also install medians on that road with designated turn lanes. Andrew also responded that the open medians aren't safe since there are too many conflict points.

Joe Habanack

- **Question:** Lowering the level of Idalia Road to accommodate the slope of the driveways; how would that work with the traffic circle?
- **Answer:** Andrew answered that we would not lower or impact the roundabout; however, we would aim to lower the grade of the road coming out of the roundabout as much as possible so that we could either match the existing slope of the driveways or flatten them out more.
- **Comment:** It would be a problem if that slope increased.
- **Answer:** Andrew responded that we are trying to accommodate the owner's access along this stretch of Idalia Rd. as much as possible.
- **Comment:** If we are limited to right turns only, how would I make an uninterrupted right turn with my mobile home? Would have to make a left turn out of the drive way to turn around with the larger vehicle and that wouldn't be possible if there is no left turn access. This needs to be large enough to accommodate those right-hand turns.

- **Comment:** Not interested in a frontage road since this won't be practical for vehicles.
- **Answer:** Andrew says that would be to give access to western properties primarily.
- **Comment:** Still would rather have to drive further, doesn't want a wall in front of their house.
- **Answer:** Andrew said we appreciate your comments and we will take that into consideration.

James Newman

- **Comment:** Sounds like rear access would be a more palatable option, but that isn't moving forward.
- **Answer:** Andrew responded that was one of our first options when evaluating the access for the property owners, but when we looked into it, it would be extremely difficult to construct. These current alternatives are the evolution of discussing with the city and our own investigations. We are trying to accommodate everyone's access. Let us know if you have other options that we need to consider.

Jeanie

- **Question:** Is the extension at Loma-Colorado to Paseo del Volcan taking priority over the Idalia road study?
- **Answer:** Arnell responded that no project is more of a priority than the other. Idalia is further along in study, but neither have construction funding identified just yet. Once funding is identified, we will advance into design and construction.

Unidentified Phone caller

- **Comment:** Was concerned about the mound of dirt that blocks noise from the traffic on Idalia. Will you be cutting into mound? We all feel the noise and vibration from the road, but mound blocks it for her house.
- **Answer:** Andrew referenced Google Earth with response. It appears that the caller is referring to a mound on the north side of Idalia that encases the high pressure gas line. We are not expecting to cut into mound since it is for the gas line and has its own easement. During design, we may actually need a retaining wall to ensure that we do not impact the easement or the gas line in order to make up the grade difference vertically.
- **Comment:** We have off-road vehicles that have caused issues. There have been close calls for collisions. Could we put up a gate to limit access to these users?
- **Answer:** Arnell responded that the city does not have jurisdiction over that gas easement. If people are being dangerous on that road, the city doesn't have access or jurisdiction to do anything. Recommend contacting the police to monitor it or contact the owner if there are on-going issues with the off-road vehicles.
- **Question:** Who owns the easement?
- **Answer:** Arnell responded that he doesn't know but the city does not own it.
- **Comment:** Traffic on the hill late at night are traveling at least 60 mph and it increases the noise.
- **Answer:** Andrew responded that by narrowing road lanes to 11', the addition of alternatives such as roundabouts, and medians will help as a speed deterrent and reduce some of the noise.
- **Question:** Will there be a turn lane for the 26th street development?
- **Answer:** Yes, there will be a median opening and turn lanes for that street.